

House Committee HB 3221 Oregon Renewable Options Program

SUPPORT with the Following Amendments:

1. Remove the BioMass Fuels Program from this bill. BioMass Facilitators generate a lot of airborne particulates and harm the surrounding neighborhoods. This impact is not accounted for. Therefore the entire BioMass program in Oregon should run in a separate program from the electricity generated in Irrigation Districts. ID water energy is significantly better for the environment than BioMass burning and should be free to run inside of a program run and operated by Irrigation District Managers. The Irrigation Districts should not be required to offset for the additional carbon output associated with BioMass facilities.
2. Require open data access to all public utility rates in Oregon. We live in a capitalist society. Capitalism demands full and transparent knowledge of prices. I encourage everybody to read the Farm Conservation Alliance testimony. They cannot really estimate any savings flowing to the consumer. The big utilities are hiding their data. This is hurting our ability, as economist, to find the most equitable cost efficient solutions. We need all the rates data. Government agencies helped build those data sets and full electronic access to these datasets by outside government entities and nonprofits will accelerate innovation and improve reductions programs.

Elected officials should think of government generated data like the utilities rates data as a public resource. This resource is like a seed for innovation and development. Without the rates data we will not reach any of our GHG targets in any sector.

Sincerely,

Roberta Robles

Klamath County